Western Literature Association
Conference 2019
Estes Park, Colorado • September 18-21

Not Cloudy All Day
Climates of Change in the American West

Graphic courtesy of Kaycie Timm
**Welcome to Estes Park!**

Look around you at this glorious location! We are in the Front Range of the Colorado Rockies, a magnificent landscape occupied, visited, and loved by Arapaho and Ute (as well as other) tribes, US expansionists, British nobility, French fur trappers, American explorers and adventurers, and millions of visitors from all over the world. At the YMCA, between Rocky Mountain National Park and the Arapaho National Forest, we are surrounded by many acres of public lands.

We meet at a moment which feels, to us at least, like a time when we must talk about change—climate change and everything it will alter about our material lives, culture shift, social transformation—and when we must make our “talk” more accessible to a broad, public audience. These convictions have shaped our conference themes and design, not to mention our choice of plenary speakers and our Distinguished Achievement Award Winner.

Our featured speakers are Aaron Abeyta, Paolo Bacigalupi, Brian Calvert, Scott Denning, Dan Flores, Kathleen Dean Moore, and Laura Pritchett. In addition to addressing climate change and cultural transformation in the West, these speakers exemplify public engagement, social and environmental activism, and a commitment to scholarly rigor and creative vigor in their work. A partnership with the Estes Valley Library has led us to make Laura Pritchett’s and Kathleen Dean Moore’s events open to the general public. We have also created a Public Intellectual/Public Interest Award for our conference this year, with relevant talks highlighted on our program (PI).

You will see on our schedule the WLA’s usual critical and creative writing (CW) panels, and we have also experimented with Quick Paper (more than four per panel) and Conversation panels with the hope that real discussion occurs during these sessions; the latter, especially, will invite listeners to become full participants. Our large number of graduate student presenters and several panels featuring younger student-scholars (including one from the Center for the Study of the American West at West Texas A&M University, our major sponsor) exemplify the WLA’s desire to cultivate a next generation of scholars. Although our Distinguished Achievement Award winner, Leslie Marmon Silko, unfortunately could not attend our gathering, many panels and a demi-plenary on indigenous studies and on Silko’s work demonstrate our strong continuing interest in Native American literatures.

We hope that the YMCA’s particular vibe will help foster a greater sense of community among our members. In the common areas, out in the expansive campus, and over shared meals in the cafeteria, we encourage you all to break out of your usual social circles, join new groups, and make new friends.

Sincerely,

SueEllen Campbell and Alex Hunt
2019 WLA Co-presidents
**INDIGENOUS LANDS**

With gratitude and respect, the Western Literature Association acknowledges that the land where we are gathering this week has for many thousands of years been part of the ancestral homeland of the Ute, Arapaho, and other Native peoples. We recognize indigenous peoples as original and traditional stewards of this place whose ties to it continue, and we strive as an organization to honor those ties.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Western Literature Association gratefully acknowledges support from our sponsors:

- The Center for the Study of the American West at West Texas A&M University
- The Charles Redd Center at Brigham Young University
- Estes Valley Public Library
- Colorado State University’s Department of English
- An anonymous donor by a longtime WLA member
- The Center of the West at University of Colorado Boulder
- Colorado State University’s College of Liberal Arts
- Colorado State University’s Public Lands History Center
- Colorado State University’s Department of History
- The College of Fine Arts and Humanities at West Texas A&M University

Access the program (with abstracts) on your smart device: download Conference4me from the iTunes App Store, the Google Play Store, or the Windows Phone Store.

You can create your own schedule and receive live updates to the program!
# 54th Western Literature Association Conference

*Not Cloudy All Day: Climates of Change in the American West*

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**Wednesday Overview**

1:00-4:00 p.m.
- WLA Executive Council Meeting (Keyhole)
  - Chair: Nicolas Witschi
4:00-7:00 p.m.
- Registration (Lower Long’s Peak Lobby)
5:00-6:45 p.m.
- Welcome Reception (Keyhole)
5:00-7:30 p.m.
  - Dinner Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)
    - **Note:** Meal times are set by the YMCA. Attendees can eat at any time within the scheduled buffet time.
7:00-7:15 p.m.
- Indigenous Land Acknowledgment
  - Ava Hamilton, Arapaho (Assembly Hall C)
7:15-8:30 p.m.

**Opening Plenary:**

**Laura Pritchett,** *The Truth of Fiction: Climate Change in Five Novels* (co-sponsored by Estes Valley Library)

Introduced and moderated by Louann Reid, Colorado State University

**Location:** Assembly Hall C

Laura Pritchett’s short story collection *Hell’s Bottom, Colorado,* won the PEN USA Award for Fiction and the Milkweed National Fiction Prize, and her novels *Sky Bridge,* *Stars Go Blue,* *Red Lightning,* and *The Blue Hour* have won numerous literary awards, including the High Plains Book Award. She also writes nonfiction (most recently *Great Colorado Bear Stories*) and has edited several environmental anthologies. Her stories and essays have appeared in *The New York Times,* *O Magazine,* *High Country News,* and elsewhere. She is a life-long resident of Colorado, living near Fort Collins, and has recently joined the creative writing faculty of Western Colorado University.
THURSDAY OVERVIEW

7:00-9:00 a.m.
Breakfast Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)

7:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Registration (Lower Long’s Peak Lobby)

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Book Exhibit & Coffee/Tea Station (Chasm Lake)

8:00-9:15 a.m.
Sessions T1

9:30-10:45 a.m.
Demi-Plenary: Susan Harness, Margaret Jacobs, Stephen Graham Jones, & Rick Waters, “Deconstructing and Reconstructing Indigenous Families and Identities” (Assembly Hall C)

9:30-10:45 a.m.
Sessions T2

11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Sessions T3

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Lunch Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)

12:20-1:20 p.m.
Graduate Student Luncheon with Kathleen Dean Moore (Diamond East)

1:30-2:45 p.m.
Sessions T4

3:00-4:15 p.m.
Plenary: Paolo Bacigalupi, “Storytelling for a Fragmented Future” (Assembly Hall C)

4:30-5:45 p.m.
Sessions T6 & Grad Student Panel: “Publishing” (Granite Pass)

5:00-7:30 p.m.
Dinner Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)

7:00-8:30 p.m.
Plenary: Kathleen Dean Moore, “How to Love a Wounded World” (Assembly Hall C)

8:30-10:00 p.m.
Social & Open Mic (Diamond East)
THURSDAY  
7:45 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Registration
Location: Lower Long’s Peak Lobby

THURSDAY  
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Book Exhibit & Coffee/Tea Station
Location: Chasm Lake

THURSDAY  
8:00-9:15 a.m.

T1A: Students on Student Engagement and Cultural Research (Center for the Study of the American West [CSAW] sponsored panel)
Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Timothy Paul Bowman, West Texas A&M University

The True Value of Student Research  
Patrick William Diepen, West Texas A&M University

Revolvers and Representation: Latino and Hispanic Representation in Red Dead Redemption  
Ashley Ryan, West Texas A&M University

Personal Experiences in the American West: How Education, Q&As, and the Blazing of Trails Bring West Texans Together  
Jose Jose Navarrete, West Texas A&M University

Montgomery Harrison Wadsworth Ritchie: Scanning the Life of a Rancher  
Eliana Renee Flores, West Texas A&M University

Public Lands and Climate Change: How National Parks Do Their Part  
Katelyn Elizabeth Denney, West Texas A&M University

T1B: War and Warming in the West (CW)
Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Thomas George McGuire, United States Air Force Academy

In Love and War with Magpies: 5 Poems  
Thomas George McGuire, United States Air Force Academy

Excerpts from Below Freezing  
Donald Anderson, United States Air Force Academy

Stories and Beginnings  
Richard Johnston, United States Air Force Academy
**T1C #MeToo and the WLA (Conversation)**

**Location:** Bible Point  
**Moderators:** Emily Lutenski, Saint Louis University; Ashley Reis, University of North Texas

**T1D: The West(ern) Abroad**

**Location:** East Portal  
**Chair:** Alex Trimble Young, Arizona State University

Distracted Censorship: Resilience of the American Western under Fascism  
Stefano Rosso, University of Bergamo

Der verlorene Westen: German Nationalism and Cowboy Country  
in the Paintings of George Grosz  
Bonnie Roos, West Texas A&M University

The Mythic West in Flann O'Brien's *At Swim-Two-Birds*  
Casey Pleming, West Texas A&M University

“Plural bodies, yet kindred spirits”: Linguistic Dispossession and Survivance  
in Gloria Anzaldúa’s *Borderlands/La Frontera* and Irena Klepfisz’s *A Few Words in the Mother Tongue*  
Caitlin Simmons, University of Iowa

**T1E: Remapping Western Spaces**

**Location:** Keyhole  
**Chair:** O. Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western

Mari Sandoz's Maps  
Nicole Gray, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Becoming Local: Literary Reinhabitation in Kathleen Norris's *Dakota*  
Sherry Alexander Bingham, University of Central Oklahoma

Everywhere and Nowhere: The Postwestern Geographies of Everett’s *Wounded*  
and Orange’s *There There*  
William Lombardi, Feather River College

**T1F: Scaling the West**

**Location:** Glacier Basin  
**Chair:** Sylvan Goldberg, Colorado College

Scaling the Dime Novel: A Quantitative Analysis of House Style  
Morgan Day Frank, Wesleyan University

Steinbeck’s Slow Writing  
Gavin Jones, Stanford University

Clarence Dutton’s Slow Sublime  
Sylvan Goldberg, Colorado College

Little City  
Rachel Heise Bolten, Stanford University
THURSDAY
8:00-9:15 a.m.

T1G: The Haunted West
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Rebecca M. Lush, California State University San Marcos

Wicked Witches of the West: Frontier Horror in Salem and AHS: Roanoke
Rebecca M. Lush, California State University San Marcos

“Sweet dreams will never take me home”: The Haunting of the West in The Shining
Jeffrey Chisum, University of Southern California

Immaterial Bo(a)rders and Transmotional Hauntings: The Haunted Highways, Hotels, and Mobile Homes of Stephen Graham Jones
Joshua Anderson, University of Saint Joseph

Jeff VanderMeer and the Liminal Place in Eco-Horror
Maria O’Connell, Wayland Baptist University

T1H: Environment, Race, and Leisure: Outdoor Industry Narratives and Western Culture (ASLE Sponsored Panel)
Location: Diamond West
Chair: Peter Bayers, Fairfield University

Alex Honnold, Tommy Caldwell, and White Masculinities of the American West in the Climbing Films Free Solo (2018) and The Dawn Wall (2017)
Peter Bayers, Fairfield University

The Retail Environmentalism of Patagonia in Yvon Chouinard’s Literary West
Daniel Clausen, Transylvania University

Taking Recreation (Somewhat) Seriously; Or, Using Leisure to Rethink Commercial Capitalism
Ryan Hediger, Kent State University

We will be live tweeting at the Western Literature Association Conference. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/WesternAmerica1 and use the hashtag: #westernlit2019

Please also use this same hashtag for Instagram and help us document the conference! Follow western_literature!
Demi-Plenary: Deconstructing and Reconstructing Indigenous Families and Identities
Susan Devan Harness, Margaret D. Jacobs, Stephen Graham Jones, & Rick Waters
Location: Assembly Hall C
Introduced and moderated by Christopher Caskey Russell, University of Wyoming

Susan Devan Harness, a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, is author of a new memoir, Bitterroot: A Memoir of Transracial Adoption and of Mixing Cultural Identities through Transracial Adoption: After the Indian Adoption Project (1958-1967). Margaret D. Jacobs, Chancellor’s Professor of History at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, is author of the award-winning book White Mother to a Dark Race: Settler Colonialism, Materialism, and the Removal of Indigenous Children in the American West and Australia, 1880-1940; with support from a Carnegie Fellowship, she is now focused on how to promote reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Stephen Graham Jones, Ivena Baldwin Professor of English at the University of Colorado, the author of too many award-winning novels and short stories to count, including Mongrels, Mapping the Interior, Ledfeather, and other experiments with pop culture forms such as horror, sci-fi, fantasy, and werewolf stories, is interested in how Native Americans and their families and communities might operate in such genres. Rick Waters, a member of the Kiowa and Cherokee tribes, is Co-Executive Director of the Denver Indian Center. He has worked as the Sr. Director with the American Indian College Fund, Assistant Director of Admissions at the University of Colorado-Boulder, and American Indian Home-School Liaison with the Dallas Independent School District.

T2C: Mosey Poesy: Western Lyricism in Poetry, Prose, and Song (CW)
Location: Bible Point
Session Chair: Sidney Thompson, Texas Christian University

You/Wee: Poems/Songs
Sidney Thompson, Texas Christian University
Tornado Season: Lyricism in the Borderlands
Courtney Craggett, Weber State University
Songs of Change and Conflict
Conrad Shumaker, University of Central Arkansas
**THURSDAY**
9:30-10:45 a.m.

**T2G: Digital West: Landscapes and Identities**  
**Location:** Diamond East  
**Chair:** Mike Lemon, Texas Tech University

- The Real and Imagined Landscape of Texas in Film and Television Westerns  
  Erin Bistline, Texas A&M University
- White, Male, and Ready to Roll: Disability and the White Savior in *Avatar*  
  Rebecca Marie Trammell, Texas Tech University
- Gaming the “Wild” West: An Ecoludological Analysis of Wilderness Depictions in *Red Dead Redemption II* and *The Last of Us*  
  AJ McCormick, West Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University

**T2H: Western Massacre Sites (PI)**  
**Location:** Diamond West  
**Chair:** Jennifer Dawes, Midwestern State University

- Imagining “Waco”: The Branch Davidian Siege in Popular Culture  
  Jennifer Dawes, Midwestern State University
- Mining Waco’s Wasteland: Missing Toxic Masculinity of Governmental Agencies  
  David Cremean, Black Hills State University

**THURSDAY**
11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

**T3A: Lost and Found: Children Out West**  
**Location:** Boulder Field  
**Chair:** Maria O’Connell, Wayland Baptist University

- Anthologizing Boarding School Literature  
  Amanda J. Zink, Idaho State University
- *Boy of the Border: The Harlem Renaissance, Children’s Literature, and the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands*  
  Timothy Paul Bowman, West Texas A&M University
- Cultural Identity/Identity of Culture: Explorations of Self in Louise Erdrich’s *Future Home of the Living God*  
  Jaclyn Louise Sutherland, Idaho State University
T3B: Places in the West (CW)
Location: Granite Pass
Session Chair: Joshua Dolezal, Central College

Love and Death in the Era of Climate Change
Matthew Bauman, Black Hills State University
Flathead Lake and Other Poems
Richard Robbins, Minnesota State University Mankato
Beside the Rattlesnake
David Mogen, Colorado State University, Emeritus

T3C: Place, Consciousness, Animal: Western Fiction
Location: Bible Point
Chair: Susan Nance, University of Guelph

Conrad Richter’s Ecological Consciousness
Marianne Cotugno, Miami University
Displacement in “The Cougar”: Apocalyptic Readings of Western Ecocriticism
Sarah Nolan, University of Southern California
What Does Place Studies Teach Us about Butcher’s Crossing?
Nancy Lincoln Easterlin, University of New Orleans
Cormac McCarthy’s Elusive Narrator
Kerry Fine, Arizona State University

T3D: New Southwest Indigenous Literary Histories: From Origins to Apocalypse
Location: East Portal
Chair: James Cox, University of Texas at Austin

Power/Justice/Territory: (Re)Defining Indigenous Jurisdiction in the Mystery Fiction of Todd Downing and Carole LaFavor
Jenna Hunnef, University of Saskatchewan
The Lynn Riggs and N. Scott Momaday Array: Letters, Bibliographies, Quarterlies
James Cox, University of Texas at Austin
When a Mound Isn’t a Mound, but Is: Channeling Earthworks in Lynn Riggs’ The Cherokee Night
Chadwick Allen, University of Washington
From Settler Foreclosure to Indigenous Futures: Apocalyptic Nationhood and the Body in Lynn Riggs’s The Cherokee Night and Cherie Dimaline’s The Marrow Thieves
Lisa M. Tatonetti, Kansas State University
Reading as Resurgence: When Boarding School Student Writings Return Home
Michael Taylor, Brigham Young University
Indigenous Mnemonics: Memory Structures in Whereas and From Sand Creek
Susan Bernardin, Oregon State University
THURSDAY
11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

T3E: Rereading for Climate Change
Location: Keyhole
Chair: Robert Thacker, St. Lawrence University

Brutal Nostalgia, Slow Violence, and My Ántonia: Making America Great Again, Volume 1
Michael Gorman, Hiroshima City University
Reading Willa Cather’s Southwestern Novels in the Age of Climate Change
Yohei Yamamoto, Meiji University
Inventing Western Climates: Willa Cather’s Territorial Imagination
Daryl W Palmer, Regis University

T3F: Climate Impact on Literary Form
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Matt Burkhart, Case Western Reserve University

Coyote, Wolf, and Woman: Animal Encounters of the Anthropocene
Lauren E Perry, University of New Mexico
Intimacy, Futurity, and the Contemporary Apocalypse
Bren Ram, Rice University
Octavia Butler and the Slow Apocalypse of Los Angeles: Race, Class, and Climate Fiction
Jaquelin Pelzer, University of Colorado – Boulder

T3G: Climates of Violence: Feminisms and Environmental Justice
Location: Diamond East
Chair: José Aranda, Rice University

Who Stole the Planet? Colonization, Capital, and Enslavement
Priscilla Solis Ybarra, University of North Texas
Environmental Justice in Indian Country Through an Indigenous Feminist Lens
Dina Gilio-Whitaker, California State University San Marcos
Feminist Westerns Engaging Authoritarianism and Climate Injustice
Krista Comer, Rice University

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### Thursday, 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**T3H: Storytelling Scholars (Conversation)**  
**Location:** Diamond West  
**Chair:** O. Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western

- Novelist, Biographer, and Writing about Place  
  O. Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western
- Playing Pioneer Woman  
  Margaret Jacobs, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- The Making of Americans: Pursuing My Irish Ancestors across the Nineteenth Century  
  Ken Egan, Humanities Montana
- Embodied Presence and Literary Analysis: The West and the Outback  
  Tom Lynch, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Scholar Pilgrim: Author Home Places and the Personal Quest  
  Susan Naramore Maher, University of Minnesota Duluth

### Thursday, 12:20 - 1:20 p.m.

**Graduate Student Luncheon with Kathleen Dean Moore**  
**Location:** Diamond East

### Thursday, 1:30 - 2:45 p.m.

**T4A: Revitalizing Indigenous Languages and Poetics**  
**Location:** Boulder Field  
**Chair:** Margaret Noodin, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

- What Do the Living Owe the Dead? Reflections on *Antikoni*, NAGPRA, and a Chorus of Aunties  
  Beth Piatote, University of California, Berkeley
- Zaka’an: Sappho’s Fragments on Fire in New Western Anishinaabemowin Translations  
  Margaret Noodin, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- The Eco-Poetics of Nora Marks Dauenhauer  
  Christopher Caskey Russell, University of Wyoming

**T4B: Borderlands and Domestic Spaces**  
**Location:** Granite Pass  
**Chair:** Priscilla Solis Ybarra, University of North Texas

- Creating and Recreating Domesticities in Early Twentieth-Century Texas  
  Laurie Lowrance, University of New Mexico
- Language, Identity, and Climate in Fabiola Cabeza de Baca’s Culinary Texts  
  Alyssa Marie Revels, United States Air Force Academy
- Parteras en la Comunidad: Mexican American Midwives as Agents of Social Cohesion in the Southwest  
  Erin Murrah-Mandril, University of Texas at Arlington
**THURSDAY**

1:30-2:45 p.m.

**T4C: Apocalyptic Visions**  
**Location:** Bible Point  
**Chair:** Lynn Badia, Colorado State University

- William Stafford’s Western Apocalypse  
  James Armstrong, Winona State University  
- Solidarity and Self-Determination: Indigenous Waters in the Anthropocene  
  Paul Formisano, University of South Dakota  
- Figuring Care as Affirmative Resistance in the Comic *Spread*  
  Kelly McKisson, Rice University

**T4D: Past Presidents’ Conversation: Buried Archives of the West(ern)**  
**Location:** East Portal

- Taylor Gordon and the Archives of the African American West  
  Michael K. Johnson, University of Maine-Farmington  
- “The Most Enthusiastic Antiquarian”: On the Political Uses of Black Western Archives  
  Emily Lutenski, Saint Louis University  
- On Not Finding What I Went Looking For in the Cecil B. DeMille Archives  
  Christine Bold, University of Guelph  
- Golfing at Flamingo Las Vegas with Marquis the Chimp, 1955  
  Susan Nance, University of Guelph  
- Ruth Muskrat Bronson and Archival Work  
  Kirby Brown, University of Oregon

**T4E: Stephen Graham Jones Society Sponsored Panel**  
**Location:** Keyhole  
**Chair:** Billy J. Stratton, University of Denver

- Objects as Artifacts of the Past, Present, and Future: Stories from Stephen Graham Jones’s *Bleed Into Me*  
  Alison Turner, University of Denver  
- “How have you stayed *alive* this long?”: Storytelling and the Preservation of Culture in Stephen Graham Jones’s *Mongrels*  
  Alison Bertolini, North Dakota State University  
  Bernadette V Russo, Texas Tech University  
- Motherless Mongrels: Coming of Age and Reproductive Justice in *Mongrels* and *The Twilight Saga* Films  
  Julia Fleming, Red Rocks Community College  
  Alise Wisniewski, University of Denver
T4F: Extraction
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: William Handley, University of Southern California

“wheat—wheat—wheat, all the time”: Food Energy Systems and the Extractive Determinism of Frank Norris
Paul Schmitt, University of Iowa
The West of Appalachia: William Woolfitt’s Poetic
Kelly Griffith, United States Air Force Academy
Earth Movers: Urban Lithographies in Contemporary Alberta Poetry
Jenny Kerber, Wilfrid Laurier University
Mining, Foreign Invasion, and Unlikely Alliances in Arizona: From *Cowboys & Aliens* to Oak Flat
Travis Franks, Arizona State University

T4G: Cather Here and There
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Mark Madigan, Nazareth College

“Do Owls Always Hoot in Graveyards?” The Soldiers’ Soundscape in Cather’s *One of Ours*
Evelyn Funda, Utah State University
Cather, Sassoon, and the Church of St. Ouen
Richard C. Harris, Webb Institute
The *Bildungsroman* and the Voyou: Willa Cather’s *The Song of the Lark*
Paul W. Burch, Rice University

T4H: Reclaiming Feminist Methodologies: Narrative Scholarship and Autobiographical Literary Criticism (Conversation)
Location: Diamond West
Chair: Randi Tanglen, Austin College

The Long History of the “Personal Voice” in Feminist Criticism
Melody Graulich, Utah State University, emeritus
Autobiographical Literary Criticism as a Form of Public Intellectual and Pedagogical Outreach
Randi Tanglen, Austin College
Walking the Talk by Talking the Walk: Material Ecocriticism and Narrative Scholarship in Writing and Pedagogy
Amy Hamilton, Northern Michigan University
Refocusing on Women and the Obscene in Viet Nguyen’s *The Sympathizer*
Amanda Gradisek, Walsh University
Plenary: Paolo Bacigalupi, Storytelling for a Fragmented Future

Location: Assembly Hall C
 Introduced and moderated by Lynn Badia, Colorado State University

Paolo Bacigalupi is on virtually every list of fiction writers who focus on climate change. His imagined future climate dystopias include The Water Knife (set in Phoenix and Las Vegas, where water has grown disastrously scarce, life is ugly, and violence rules) and The Windup Girl (set in Bangkok), both for adults, and a trio of Ship Breaker novels for young adults; his awards for these and other books are too many to list. His short pieces of fiction and nonfiction have appeared in Wired, Slate, Medium, Salon, and High Country News. Another Coloradan, he lives in Paonia, Colorado.

T6A: Western Activist Writing

Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Amanda J. Zink, Idaho State University

The Rhetoric and Influence of Mental Health Reformer Dorothea Dix
Emily Treasure, Idaho State University

The Agrarian Mind: Animal, Vegetable, Miracle and An Owl on Every Fence Post
Brooke Cartwright, Northeastern State University

What Would Wally Do? Wallace Stegner on Political Polarization and the Politics of Identity
Kary Doyle Smout, Washington and Lee University

Betrayal Trauma Theory in Tara Westover’s Memoir Educated
Jeremy Solomon, Idaho State University

T6B: Grad Student Panel: Publishing

Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Jillian Moore Bennion, Duquesne University

Panelists:
Susan Kollin, Montana State University
Rebecca Lush, California State University San Marcos
Melody Graulich, Utah State University, emeritus
Erin Murrah-Mandril, University of Texas at Arlington
Melina Vizcaíno-Alemán, University of New Mexico
T6C: Women’s History: Bringing the Past into the Present (PI)
Location: Bible Point
Chair: Carol Loranger, Wright State University

No Longer Unknown: A Public Archival History of Sanora Babb
     Mariah Wahl, University of Texas
No Region for Tourists and Women: The Blue Birds Go West
     Kayann Short, Women Writing the West
Magical, Criminal, Weird: Using Colorado Women’s History in Genre Fiction
     María Melendez Kelson, Dodge City Community College

T6D: African American West
Location: East Portal
Chair: Michael K. Johnson, University of Maine-Farmington

“This lovely part of the world”: Juanita Harrison in Waikiki
     Cathryn Halverson, Minot State University
Performance as Historiographic Disruption in Cultural Representations of the “Black Cowboy”
     Indigo Recker, Duquesne University
“You’re from out west”: A Black Cowboy on the [Mythic] Western Front
     in Pretty Deadly, Volume Two
     Mike Lemon, Texas Tech University

T6E: Indigenous Representations
Location: Keyhole
Chair: James Cox, University of Texas at Austin

Multimodal Sound Ecologies and Ethnomusicology: Rethinking Frances Densmore’s Chippewa Music
     Amanda Monteleone, University of Texas at Arlington
The Tall Good Looking One: Silko and Roanhorse’s Navajo Characters
     Carolyn Dekker, Finlandia University
A Paradoxical Entity: Cappy as Trickster in Louise Erdrich’s The Round House
     Cameron David Sedlacek, Idaho State University
“The copy of a copy of the image of an Indian”: Re-membering and the Digital Screen
     in Tommy Orange’s There There
     Maria Alberto, University of Utah
THURSDAY
4:30-5:45 p.m.

T6F: New West Cli-Fi
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Nancy S. Cook, University of Montana

Climate Change and the Anti-Western: Reading John Williams’s Butcher’s Crossing as Cli-fi
Nancy Menning, Ithaca College
Castigating against Climate Change: The Facsimile of “Fly Fishing” in Love in the Anthropocene
Cory Glen Willard, University of Nebraska
“Becoming-Animal”: Exploring the Possibilities and Limitations for New Subjectivities in Louise Erdrich’s Tracks
Nicholas Jon Langenberg, Grand Valley State University
“She knows this ranch like a chart”: Cowgirls and Climate Change
Elizabeth Wright, Penn State Hazleton

T6G: The Long 60s
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Tom Lynch, University of Nebraska

“Rock Poesy State!” Allen Ginsberg on Tape
Kathryn Mack Winner, Stanford University
Colin Carman, Colorado Mesa University
Outer Beats: Angus MacLise’s Journey, West to East
Rob Wallace, Northern Arizona University
Still Farther Downstream: Literary Frolic in the Work of Richard Brautigan
Michael Brown, Creighton University

T6H: Post West / Diverse Media
Location: Diamond West
Chair: Ryan Brooks, West Texas A&M University

Conscious Feminine Understanding in HBO’s Westworld
Susanna Bender, Texas Tech University
Religion and Humanity in HBO’s Westworld
Steven Tucker, Texas Tech University
From Famine to Feast: Thanos and the Complication of Grief and Eco-Grief in Avengers: Endgame and Infinity War
Bridgit O’Connell, Wayland Baptist University
The Country Trap: “Old Town Road” and Racialized Identities in the U.S.
Meredith Louise Harvey, George Williams College of Aurora University
Graduate Student Social and Open Mic hosted by Aaron Abeyta

**Location:** Diamond East

Graduate students only until 9 p.m. Then open to all registered folks.

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**Plenary: Kathleen Dean Moore, How to Love a Wounded World (co-sponsored by Estes Valley Library)**

**Location:** Assembly Hall C

Introduced and moderated by SueEllen Campbell, Colorado State University

Kathleen Dean Moore is an award-winning philosopher, activist, and writer whose books include the essay collections *Great Tide Rising: Finding Clarity and Moral Courage to Confront Climate Change*, *Pine Island Paradox*, *Wild Comfort*, and the novel *Piano Tide*. Her essays have appeared in *High Country News*, *Orion*, *Discover*, *Audubon*, *Utne Reader*, *Earth Island Journal*, *New York Times Magazine*, *Conservation Biology*, and elsewhere; and she has addressed audiences ranging from 350.org activists to Nobel Conference scholars to Disney World executives and students all over the country.

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**THURSDAY**

7:00-8:30 p.m.

**Graduate Student Social and Open Mic hosted by Aaron Abeyta**

**Location:** Diamond East

Graduate students only until 9 p.m. Then open to all registered folks.

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**THURSDAY**

8:30-10:00 p.m.
FRIDAY OVERVIEW

7:00-9:00 a.m.
  Breakfast Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)

7:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
  Registration (Lower Long’s Peak Lobby)

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
  Book Exhibit & Coffee/Tea Station (Chasm Lake)

8:00-9:15 a.m.
  Sessions F1

9:30-10:45 a.m.
  Plenary: Aaron Abeyta, “The Poem as Necessary Sacrifice: To Love a People, Place, & Home Until It Breaks You” (Assembly Hall C)

11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
  Sessions F3

11:30-1:30 p.m.
  Lunch Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)

1:30-2:45 p.m.
  Sessions F4

3:00-4:15 p.m.
  Plenary: Brian Calvert and Scott Denning, “Thinking through the Atmosphere: Public Thought for a Changing Climate” (Assembly Hall C)

4:30-5:30 p.m.
  Sessions F6

5:45-6:30 p.m.
  Reception (Diamond East)

6:30-8:00 p.m.
  WLA Banquet and Award Ceremony (Assembly Hall C)

8:00-10:00 p.m.
  Dance with live music from MORAL PANIC (Assembly Hall C)
F1A Responsive Classrooms: How Are Classes and Campuses Adapting to Change? (Conversation)
Location: Boulder Field
Chairs: Tara Penry, Boise State University; Nic Witschi, Western Michigan University

F1B Geologies of Memory (PI, CW)
Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Kyoko Matsunaga, Kobe City University of Foreign Studies

- Imaginary Indians
  Debby Thompson, Colorado State University
- The Case for Inefficiency
  Quinn Grover, Brigham Young University-Idaho
- Granite and Grace: A Reading
  Michael Cohen, Southern Utah University, emeritus

F1C Hard-Core Stone-Cold Cli-Fi
Location: Bible Point
Chair: Emily J. Rau, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Water Futures in Post-Apocalyptic Fiction
  Paula Farca, Colorado School of Mines
- Variations on Plan(et) B: T. C. Boyle’s The Terranauts
  John David Schwetman, University of Minnesota Duluth
- “To live in that wreckage”: Kim Stanley Robinson’s New York 2140 as Post-Western Climate Fiction
  Matt Burkhart, Case Western Reserve University
- Climate Change Despair in the Classroom: Ethical Responsibilities in Teaching Climate Change
  Elisa Warford, University of Southern California
**FRIDAY**
8:00-9:15 a.m.

**F1D Unpacking the Goodnow House Library: Reflections from a Midwestern Archive Collaboration**
*Location:* East Portal
*Chair:* Steffi Dippold, Kansas State University

Eli Thayer’s “Rousing Lecture”: Changing the Rhetorical Climate about the American West  
Mohammad Kasifur Rahman, Kansas State University

Women Write the West: Emma Willard’s Gendered American History  
Courtney Thompson, Kansas State University

Thinking Orange in the American West  
Stephanie Wallace, Kansas State University

**F1E An Ethic of Care**
*Location:* Keyhole
*Chair:* Ashley Elaine Reis, University of North Texas

Agency in Belonging to Place: American Indian Philosophy in the Ethos of Mourning Dove’s *Cogewea*  
Kristen Paige Wheaton, Idaho State University

Caring for the Land: Women in Rural Space in the Work of Sanora Babb and Wendell Berry  
Caroline Straty Kraft, University of Texas at Austin

Seeds of Resilience: Community Caretaking and Sustainable Resistance in Ruth Ozeki’s *All Over Creation*  
Marie Drews, Luther College

The Grace of Trees: (Eco)nstitutive Relationality, Spiritual Utility, and Reforestation Hopes in *The Overstory* by Richard Powers  
Scott Hendry, University of Oklahoma

**F1F Sanora Babb and Mary Hallock Foote: Writers in Context**
*Location:* Glacier Basin
*Chair:* Kerry Fine, Arizona State University

Echoes of Ancient Greece: Influence and Resonance of the Ancient World in the Writings of Mary Hallock Foote  
Megan Riley McGilchrist, American School in London

“I Became a Mystic”: Rejuvenation and the West in Mary Hallock Foote’s *Edith Bonham*  
Tara Deborah Causey, University of North Georgia

Sanora Babb and the False Borders of the Dust Bowl  
Katharine Reed Taylor, University of Colorado at Boulder

Sanora Babb’s Panhandle Poems  
Carol Loranger, Wright State University
F1G Homemaking and Homebreaking

Location: Diamond East
Chair: Kalenda Eaton, University of Oklahoma

The “Clean Streets Initiative”: Anti-Vagrancy and the Abject in Los Angeles
Alexandra Lee Meany, University of Washington

The Uncanny Western Space of Home, from The Shining to Hereditary
Lars Erik Larson, University of Portland

Dream, Baby, Dream: Utopia, Dystopia, Cinematic Realism, and the Late Capitalist Postwest in Andrea Arnold’s American Honey
Paul Byron Wickelson, Independent Scholar

F1H Genre, Land, and the Global North

Location: Diamond West
Chair: Krista Comer, Rice University

Feminist Ecology in the U.S. Suburbs: Environmental Studies, Bioregionalism, and the Problem of Suburban Accountabilities
Annie Culver, Rice University

Mestiza Cosmopoiesis: Aesthetics of Healing in the Later Writings of Gloria Anzaldúa
Sam Stoeltje, Rice University

Oil as Invisible Death: Production, Invisibility, War
Clancy Sheridan Taylor, Rice University

Plenary: Aaron Abeyta, The Poem as Necessary Sacrifice: To Love a People, Place, & Home until It Breaks You

Location: Assembly Hall C
Introduced and moderated by Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University

Aaron Abeyta is professor of English at Western Colorado University and Mayor of Antonito, Colorado, his hometown. He is the author of four collections of poetry, including colcha, winner of an American Book Award and the Colorado Book Award. His novel Rise, Do Not Be Afraid, was a finalist for the 2007 Colorado Book Award and El Premio Aztlán. His writings—grounded in place, family, and culture—have led to a term as Poet Laureate of Colorado’s Western Slope, a Colorado Council on the Arts Fellowship, and a Governor’s Creative Leadership Award. Abeyta has played a significant role in keeping literature vital in some of Colorado’s underserved regions.
**F3A Think Global (but Still Western)**

**Location:** Boulder Field  
**Chair:** Stefano Rosso, University of Bergamo

- A Sri Lankan Huck Finn: Teenage High-Jinx and Surviving on an Island in Martin Wickramasinghe’s 1947 *Madol Doova*  
  Christine Hill Smith, Colorado Mountain College
- “As Remote from your America as the Gobi Desert”: Reading W. Somerset’s Maugham’s *The Razor’s Edge* as a Western  
  Matthew Young Heimburger, University of Utah
- The Danger of Ecological Heroism in *The Life and Times of Michael K* and *The Overstory*  
  Jennifer Dolores Kinne, Grand Valley State University
- Bioregionalism and China  
  Cheng Fang, Nanjing Institute of International Studies

**F3B The West in Other Genres (PI)**

**Location:** Granite Pass  
**Chair:** Kalenda Eaton, University of Oklahoma

- Stephen King’s Colorado: The American West of *The Shining*  
  Tom Hillard, Boise State University
- King of the Chicanos: Manuel Ramos’ Archeology of Colorado Aztlan  
  Tim Steckline, Black Hills State University
- Southern Justice in the American West: Chester Himes, Quentin Tarantino and the Legacy of the Fugitive Slave Law in Los Angeles  
  Joshua Smith, Biola University

**F3C The Public Lands Debate: What’s Next? (PI)**

**Location:** Bible Point  
**Chair:** Jennifer Ladino, University of Idaho

- The Public Lands Debate: What’s Next?  
  Jennifer Ladino, University of Idaho
- Gold Rush Giveaways: Then and Now  
  April Anson, University of Pennsylvania
- “Public” versus “Native”  
  Leisl Carr Childers, Colorado State University
- #PublicLandsAreNativeLands: Digital Storytelling and the Decolonial Mediascape  
  Ashley Elaine Reis, University of North Texas
F3D Breaking the Rules of Sex and Gender

**Location:** East Portal  
**Chair:** Emily Lutenski, Saint Louis University

- Reframing the Western Hero: Sex Work and Frontier Bodies in Joss Whedon’s *Firefly*  
  Jillian Moore Bennion, Duquesne University
- Prostitute Seeking Domesticity: Violence, Power Dynamics, and Yonic Symbols in HBO’s *Westworld*  
  Emma Kathryn Brousseau, Texas Tech University
- A Body without a Story: The Immortal Spectacle in *The Ballad of Little Jo*  
  Shelby Elizabeth Ella Grauberger, University of Nevada, Reno
- “What Are Y’all Starin’ at?” Female Masculinity, Queerphobia, and Agency in *Godless*  
  Lindsay Stephens, University of South Dakota

F3E Being on the Land

**Location:** Keyhole  
**Chair:** William Lombardi, Feather River College

- Roughriding through Colorado’s Canyons: Cougars, Bears, and Teddy Roosevelt  
  Carmen Pearson, Independent Scholar
- Lincoln Hills, Jim Crow, and American Constructions of Leisure  
  Shelly Jarenski, University of Michigan Dearborn
  Eric Chilton, Case Western Reserve University
- Stand-Off or Show Down? The Shovel Brigade of Elko, Nevada  
  Gretchen Skivington, Great Basin College

F3F Performing and Constructing Indian-ness

**Location:** Glacier Basin  
**Chair:** Lisa Tatonetti, Kansas State University

- “A great, yet virtuous empire in the west”: (Re)staging the Frontier in James Nelson Barker’s *The Indian Princess*  
  David James Peterson, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- “The Sac and Fox Did Not Wear Headdresses”: Re-Visioning and Decolonizing the Settler-Colonial Representation of Black Hawk  
  Donovan Gwinner, Aurora University
- Indigenous Rhetoric within the Scope of Native Environmental History and Its Relations to Literature and Journalism: Rebranding the Indian and Nature  
  Jonathan Wilson, Odessa College
FRIDAY
11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

F3G Quick! Resilience! Five Writers Offer Creativity in the Face of Change (CW)
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Elizabeth Dodd, Kansas State University

All Is Leaf
John T. Price, University of Nebraska at Omaha
The Negroes Send Their Love
Sean Hill, Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference
Laughing Matters
Michael Branch, University of Nevada, Reno
Outliers
Elizabeth Dodd, Kansas State University
The Pump and the Pumpjack: Climate Change and Diabetes
Taylor Brorby, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

FRIDAY
1:30-2:45 p.m.

F3H Research into Art
Location: Diamond West
Chair: Jennifer Sinor, Utah State University

The Role of Speculation in Creative Nonfiction
Jennifer Sinor, Utah State University
Literary Genealogies: or, Bridging the Past and Imagining Disaster
Rona Kaufman, Pacific Lutheran University
Research Like a Lawyer, Write Like a Poet
Wendy Willis, Writer
The Serendipitous Discovery
Debra Gwartney, Pacific University
Imagination, Research, and the Fiction Writer
Mary Clearman Blew, University of Idaho

F4A Changing West (PI)
Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Karen Ramirez, University of Colorado Boulder

From the Tournament at Camelot to the Round-up at Abilene: Medievalism and the American West
Daniel Glynn Helbert, West Texas A&M University
After the End: Collapse and Survival on the Front Range in Peter Heller's The Dog Stars
Dana Phillips, Towson University; Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa
Exploring the National Parks as a Site for Deliberation
Karen Ramirez, University of Colorado Boulder
F4B A Place in the Canon
Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Jenny Kerber, Wilfrid Laurier University

Nathan Straight, Utah State University
“What Insists on Being Looked At”: Alternative Modes of Reading and Writing Place
Kelly Craig, University of Utah
“From the Viewpoint of the Forest”: Annie Proulx’s (Post)Anthropocene Vision
from Shared Violence to Cooperative Restoration
Jamie Crosswhite, University of Texas San Antonio
Coyote and Raven: Agents of Change
Emily Golson, University of Northern Colorado
Wallace Stegner and the w/Western Canon
James Gilbert Mayo, Jackson State Community College

F4C The Dark West
Location: Bible Point
Chair: Katharine Amber Anthony, Amarillo Independent School District

Theorizing the Midwestern Gothic
Patricia Oman, Hastings College
Environments of Evil in The Shining and Doctor Sleep
Jennifer K. Cox, Idaho State University
God Offended: Nature Subverted in McCarthy’s The Road
Lori Martin, Pittsburg State University

F4D Analyzing the Anthropocene
Location: East Portal
Chair: Audrey Goodman, Georgia State University

A Collision of Worlds through Time: Melting Glaciers, Climate Change, and the Demise
of Native Communities in John Muir’s Alaska
Eric Matthew Stottlemyer, Wake Forest University
Joan Didion, Affective Immersion, and Deep Time
Zak Breckenridge, University of Utah
Smog, the Santa Anas, and the Downwinders: Western Literary Atmospherics
Meagan Rose Meylor, University of Southern California
F4E Silko and Indigenous Textuality (Conversation)
Location: Keyhole
Chair: Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University
Revised Regeneration: Leslie Marmon Silko and 1970s Post-Traumatic Cinema
Landon Lutrick, University of Nevada, Reno
The Desert Southwest in the Works of Leslie Marmon Silko and Kyoko Hayashi
Kyoko Matsunaga, Kobe City University of Foreign Studies

F4F Re/Covering Classics of Western Literature
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Nicolas S. Witschi, Western Michigan University
Ramona and the Futurity of Land Use in California
José Aranda, Rice University
Negotiating Manifest Destiny: Helen Hunt Jackson’s Ramona and the Intimacies of the Western-American “Contact Zone”
Monique McDade, University of Nevada, Reno
Revisionism avant la lettre – Reevaluating Mark Twain’s and Stephen Crane’s Westerns
Johannes Fehrle, University of Graz
Performing Western Authenticity: B. M. Bower’s Literary Practice
Victoria Lamont, University of Waterloo

F4G Western Bodies: Migration, Labor, Perception
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Olivia Tracy, University of Denver
Exiled Birds and Abandoned Boats: The Queer Pacific in Yone Noguchi’s The American Diary of a Japanese Girl
Jada Ach, Arizona State University
“Connect and Fight”: Debt and Solidarity in Contemporary Western Science Fiction
Ryan Brooks, West Texas A&M University
Autistic Perspectives: An Investigation of Disability and Digital Humanities in Ned Hayes’ The Eagle Tree
Jes Lopez, Michigan State University
Earth (in) the Body: Verbs, Metaphors, and Environmental Rhetoric (Conversation)
Olivia Tracy, University of Denver
F4H Honoring the Rigors of His Putrid Nature: A Structured Conversation on Deadwood: The Movie

Location: Diamond West
Chair: Justin Joyce, Emory University

My Job Is to Interpret the Law: Sheriff Bullock and the Avenging Western Hero
Justin A. Joyce, Emory University

The Final Stamp: Deadwood and the Gothic American Frontier
Wendy Witherspoon, Los Angeles City College

Continuity and Change in Deadwood’s Language
Brad Benz, University of Denver

Deadwood: Firsting and Lasting in the Western Genre
Alex Trimble Young, Arizona State University

Plenary: Brian Calvert & Scott Denning, Thinking through the Atmosphere: Public Thought for a Changing Climate

Location: Assembly Hall C
Introduced and moderated by SueEllen Campbell, Colorado State University

Brian Calvert and Scott Denning will speak about climate change in the American West, their public-facing climate work, and how that work overlaps or is in tension with other aspects of their professional and personal lives.

Brian Calvert is editor-in-chief of High Country News. A Wyoming native, he has worked as a foreign correspondent, writer, and audio journalist, and he has been a Ted Scripps Fellow in Environmental Journalism at the University of Colorado. His 2017 HCN essay, “So What if We’re Doomed? Climate Chaos, Mass Extinction, The Collapse of Civilization: A Guide to Facing the Ecocide,” is just one result of his concern with climate change.

Scott Denning is Monfort Professor of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University, where he has since 2006 led a program to engage students, teachers (both at all levels), and the public on the scientific and cultural imperatives of climate change. He speaks about twice a month to churches, farmers, schools, Rotarians, reporters, professional skeptics, and other interested citizens of the planet.
Friday
4:30-5:30 p.m.

F6A Farmers, Cowboys, Railroads, and Dirtbags: Seasonal Labor and Western Literature (Conversation)
Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Sarah Jane Kerwin, University of Michigan

For a Time: Putting Seasonal Mountain Dwelling into Words
Sarah Jane Kerwin, University of Michigan
Mobile Labor and the Railroad: Relocation, Removal, and Transience
Emily J. Rau, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Seasonal Logics of Farming and Migration in the West
Surabhi Balachander, University of Michigan

F6B Postmodern Western Travels
Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Michael Gorman, Hiroshima City University

The West as Archive in Valeria Luiselli’s Lost Children Archive
Teddy Hamstra, University of Southern California
From the Mexico Western to Hard-Boiled Hollywood in Thomas Pynchon’s Against the Day
Matt Wanat, Ohio University Lancaster
For the Unquiet Dead, Geography Ain’t the Point: The Ludlow Massacre and Global Capitalism in Thomas Pynchon’s Against the Day
Nicholas Henson, Citrus College

F6C Feminist Critical Regionalism (Conversation)
Location: Bible Point
Chair: Krista Comer, Rice University

Embodied Reading
Audrey Goodman, Georgia State University
Black Women’s Western Geographies
Martha Pitts, Fairleigh Dickinson State University
The Aesthetics of Place: Gender, Regionalism, and Chicana Art
Melina Vizcaíno-Alemán, University of New Mexico

F6D Western Illness Narratives (CW)
Location: East Portal
Chair: Joshua Smith, Biola University

At Least I Can Say Goodbye
MaxieJane Frazier, Bennington Writing Seminars
Darkness and Light
Joshua Dolezal, Central College
Mules
DJ Lee, Washington State University
F6E Homes on the Range: Collaborating across Classrooms and Disciplines through Literature of the Great Plains (Conversation)

Location: Keyhole
Chair: Matthew Q. Evertson, Chadron State College

At Home in the Remote: Settlement and Sustainability in First-Year Inquiry, Ecocomposition, and Western Literature
Matthew Evertson, Chadron State University
Searching for Home in the Warming West: A Creative Writing Collaboration in the Literature Classroom
Markus Egeler Jones, Chadron State University
Finding a Home in the West: Building a Creative Writing Program at a Frontier and Remote College Campus
Steve Coughlin, Chadron State University

F6F (Re)Thinking Activism and Geopolitics in the Borderlands (papers & conversation)

Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: José Aranda, Rice University

Towards an Angry Fronterizx Praxis
Sophia Martinez-Abbud, Rice University
“Otherwise Ordinary Men”: The Geopolitics of the Borderlands
Sonia Del Hierro, Rice University

F6G Personal and Political: Relating to Public Lands

Location: Diamond East
Chair: John David Schwetman, University of Minnesota Duluth

Troubled Delight: Conservation and Use in Mary Austin and John Muir
Caroline Greta Clare, Arizona State University
The Poetics of Photography in Yellowstone National Park
Thomas Patin, Northern Arizona University
From the Public to the Personal: A Reflection on Our National Parks with Terry Tempest Williams
Sharon Reynolds, Palomar College
**FRIDAY**

4:30-5:30 p.m.

**F6H Re-Vision in the Anthropocene (PI, Conversation)**

Location: Diamond West  
Chair: John VanOverbeke, University of Minnesota

Faith and Novelty in the Anthropocene  
George Handley, Brigham Young University  
Re-Viewing Rephotography in the Anthropocene  
William Handley, University of Southern California  
Glacier after Glaciers  
John VanOverbeke, University of Minnesota

**FRIDAY**

5:45-6:30 p.m.

**Reception**

Location: Diamond East

**FRIDAY**

6:30-8:00 p.m.

**WLA Banquet and Award Ceremony**

Location: Assembly Hall C

Bring your YMCA meal pass or banquet ticket

**FRIDAY**

8:00-10:00 p.m.

**Dance with live music from MORAL PANIC**

Location: Assembly Hall C
2019 WLA Award Recipients

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
For an influential scholar or creative writer in western American literature
Leslie Marmon Silko

DELBERT & EDITH WYLDER AWARD
For outstanding service to the association
Susan Kollin (Montana State University, Bozeman)

THOMAS J. LYON BOOK AWARD
For most outstanding book published in 2018 in western American literary and cultural studies
Kirby Brown (University of Oregon)
for Stoking the Fire: Nationhood in Cherokee Writing, 1907–1970

DON D. WALKER PRIZE
For best essay published in western American literary studies in 2018
Marcel Brousseau (University of Oregon)

CREATIVE WRITING AWARD
For the best creative writing submission to the conference
Joshua Dolezal (Central College)
for “Darkness and Light”

WLA/CHARLES REDD CENTER K-12 TEACHING AWARD
Katharine Amber Anthony (Amarillo Independent School District)
for “Establishing Roots: Place-Based Learning in a Multicultural Title I High School”

J. GOLDEN TAYLOR AWARD
For best essay presented at the conference by a graduate student
Amanda Monteleone (University of Texas at Arlington)
for “Multimodal Sound Ecologies and Ethnomusicology: Rethinking Frances Densmore’s Chippewa Music”

DORYS GROVER AWARDS
For outstanding papers presented at the conference by graduate students who contribute to our critical understandings of region, place, and space in western American literatures
Travis Franks (Arizona State University)
for “Mining, Foreign Invasion, and Unlikely Alliances in Arizona: From Cowboys & Aliens to Oak Flat”
Maria Alberto (University of Utah)
for “‘The copy of a copy of the image of an Indian’: Re-membering and the Digital Screen in Tommy Orange’s There There”

LOUIS OWENS AWARDS
For graduate student presenters contributing most to cultural diversity in the association
Surabhi Balachander (University of Michigan)
for “Towards a Rural Ethnic Studies”

Maria Alberto (University of Utah)
for “‘The copy of a copy of the image of an Indian’: Re-membering and the Digital Screen in Tommy Orange’s There There”
SUNDAY OVERVIEW

7:00-9:00 a.m.
  Breakfast Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)
7:15-8:15 a.m.
  Presidents’ Breakfast (Aspen Dining Room)
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
  Book Exhibit (Chasm Lake)
8:30-9:45 a.m.
  Sessions S1 & Grad Student Panel: “The Best Advice and Strategies for Interviews” (Granite Pass)
9:45-11:00 a.m.
  Plenary: Dan Flores, “Adventures Writing about Animals in the Anthropocene” (Aspen Glen)
11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
  WLA Business Meeting (Aspen Glen)
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
  Lunch Buffet (Aspen Dining Room)

Photo courtesy of Evan Fleury
S1A Turning to Home (CW)
Location: Boulder Field
Chair: Maxie Jane Frazier, Bennington Writing Seminars

Boom
Lawrence Coates, Bowling Green State University
In the Snowy Range, and Other Poems
John Calderazzo, Colorado State University
Returning to the West: Exploring and Questioning Family Stories
Anne Marie Carrica, Regis University

S1B Grad Student Panel: The Best Advice and Strategies for Interviews
Location: Granite Pass
Chair: Jessica Colleen Perez Lopez, Michigan State University

Panelists:
Priscilla Ybarra, University of North Texas
Will Lombardi, Feather River College
Matt Burkhart, Case Western Reserve University

S1C WLA/Redd Center K–12 Teaching Award
Location: Bible Point
Chair: Randi Tanglen, Austin College

Establishing Roots: Place-Based Learning in a Multicultural Title I High School
Katharine Amber Anthony, Amarillo Independent School District
S1D The Visual West
Location: East Portal
Chair: Erin Bistline, University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Art, Erosion, and Decay in the American West
Amy Von Lintel, West Texas A&M University
Uncertain Wests: Kelly Reichardt, Feminist Filmmaking, and Settler Sensibilities
Susan Kollin, Montana State University
NASA and Literary Landscapes: Doing Your Environmental Change Research in Space
Patricia Hackbarth, Independent Scholar

S1F Outsiders at Home
Location: Glacier Basin
Chair: Melody Graulich, Emeritus Professor Utah State University

What Are Taiwanese (Indigenous People) Doing in Thomas King’s Novel? A Borderless World in The Back of the Turtle
Yingwen Yu, University of Arizona
Paneling without Walls: Narrating the Border in Barrier
Daniel Pinti, Niagara University
Neither Coolie Nor White Settler: Sui Sin Far’s Bourgeois Chinese
Ryan Wander, University of California, Davis
Intersectionality and Juxtaposition in Mourning Dove’s Cogewea
Ryan Patrick Randall, Idaho State University

S1G Borders in Western Fiction
Location: Diamond East
Chair: Bernadette V Russo, Texas Tech University

Gynocentric Heterotopia in Mourning Dove’s Cogewea
Jennifer Breck Dalley, Idaho State University
Dao Strom’s Grass Roof Tin Roof as Map of Refugee/Refugiée/Refugitude in the Hills of California
Michele Janette, Kansas State University
Adaptation through a Leap of Faith: Theology and Theory in A. A. Carr’s Eye Killers
Hogan Douglas Schaak, Idaho State University
Finding Home in the West: Japanese American Shopkeeper in Yoshino Uchida’s Picture Bride
Wonjeong Kim, Idaho State University

S1H Readers’ Theater: A Lady’s Life in the Rocky Mountains
Location: Diamond West
Chair: O. Alan Weltzien, University of Montana Western

Starring: David Fenimore, Rebecca Lush, Melody Graulich, and Matthew Heimburger, plus a cast of the usual suspects.
Plenary: Adventures Writing about Animals in the Anthropocene
Presented by Dan Flores

Dan Flores, A. B. Hammond Professor Emeritus of the History of the American West at the University of Montana-Missoula, is the author of ten books, most recently the New York Times Bestseller Coyote America: A Natural and Supernatural History (2016), and American Serengeti: The Last Big Animals of the Great Plains (2016). His essays on the environment, art, and culture of the West have appeared in newspapers like the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, and the Chicago Tribune, and in magazines such as Texas Monthly, Orion, Southwest Art, and High Country News, and his work has been honored by the Western Writers of America, the Denver Public Library, the Western Heritage Center/National Cowboy Museum, the High Plains, Montana, and Oklahoma Book Awards; and by the Western History Association, Montana Historical Society, and Texas State Historical Association.

Saturday
8:30-9:45 a.m.

S11 Panel Discussion: Rocky (Mountain National Park) Road:
Telling Stories of Trail Ridge Road at Parks as Portals to Learning (Public Lands History Center sponsored panel)

Location: Aspen Glen
Introduced by Ariel Schnee, Program Manager, Public Lands History Center, CSU History
Moderated by Michael Childers, Assistant Professor, CSU History
Panelists: Andy Olson, M.A. Candidate, CSU History; Kurt Kneirim, High School Teacher, Rocky Mountain High School; Kayla Steele, High School Teacher, Berthoud High School; Issy Condon, Student, Berthoud High School; Ella Rupp, Berthoud High School; Leslie Moore, M.A. Candidate, CSU History; Hailey Doucette, Undergraduate, CSU History; Bekah Schields, M.A. Candidate, CSU History; & Jake Swisher, M.A. Candidate, CSU History

Saturday
9:45-11:00 a.m.

Plenary: Adventures Writing about Animals in the Anthropocene
Presented by Dan Flores
Location: Aspen Glen
Chair: Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University

Saturday
11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

WLA Business Meeting
Location: Aspen Glen

Saturday
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Lunch Buffet
Location: Aspen Dining Room
To nominate a WLA member for the Executive Council: Find out if your nominee is willing to serve. Write the name and affiliation of your candidate on the flipchart in the registration area. Council members must be WLA members and must attend the next three WLA meetings, including the Wednesday afternoon Executive Council meeting. All nominees are advised to attend the Saturday morning business meeting.

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<td>Alex Hunt</td>
<td>Co–President</td>
<td>West Texas A&amp;M University</td>
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<td>Audrey Goodman</td>
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<td>Anne L. Kaufman &amp; Laurie Ricou</td>
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<td>Florence Amamoto &amp; Susan Maher</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>St. Louis, Missouri</td>
<td>Emily Lutenski &amp; Michael Johnson</td>
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Save the Date

2021 WLA Conference: Palimpsests and Western Literatures

The 2021 WLA Conference will be co-hosted by Audrey Goodman and Lisa Tatonetti on October 20th-October 23rd in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The conference will take place at the stunning Santa Fe Community Convention Center, which is in the heart of the first U.S. city to be chosen by UNESCO as a Creative City. Santa Fe is surrounded by the Sangre de Cristo mountains, national forests, and the nineteen Pueblos of New Mexico. The main conference accommodation, the Drury Plaza Hotel, is just blocks from the Convention Center and the historic Plaza. We look forward to seeing you there!
Exhibits

We thank our exhibitors for joining us in Estes Park. We know that traveling and sending materials has become more expensive, but it makes such a difference to look through your offerings in person. We appreciate your attendance:

- University of New Mexico Press
- Estes Valley Library
- Center for the Study of the American West
- Western Colorado University, Graduate Program in Creative Writing
- University of Nevada Press
- Hastings College Press
- University of Nebraska Press

This book is a cultural history of the interplay between the Western genre and American gun rights and legal paradigms. From muskets in the hands of landed gentry opposing tyrannical government to hidden pistols kept to ward off potential attackers, the historical development of entwined legal and cultural discourses has sanctified the use of gun violence by private citizens and specified the conditions under which such violence may be legally justified. Gunslinging Justice explores how the Western genre has imagined new justifications for gun violence which American law seems ever-eager to adopt.

Hardcover Published: August 2018
ISBN: 978-1-5261-2616-0
Pages: 264
Publisher: Manchester University Press
Available on Amazon.com and through Manchester University Press
Praise for Laura Pritchett:

"Pritchett writes with an evident love for the mountains and the people that call them home." — *Westword*, One of Ten Great Books by Colorado Authors in 2017 (on *The Blue Hour*)

“Pritchett’s prose is so beautifully crafted that she manages to make sadness beautiful and tragedy compelling.”
— *Real Simple* (on *Stars Go Blue*)

"Laura Pritchett is one of Colorado’s finest writers."  
— *Steamboat Today*

WLA Featured Speaker:

Don't miss Laura's WLA 2019 plenary
"The Truth of Fiction: Climate Change in Five Novels"

Wednesday 9/18, 7:00pm–8:30pm  
Assembly Hall C
KATHLEEN DEAN MOORE

Award-winning naturalist, philosopher, activist, and author of:

Praise for Kathleen Dean Moore:

"An excellent book for environmental ethics and environmental literature courses . . . accessible, compelling, and fluid."
—Environmental Ethics, (on Piano Tide)

"A tremendously moving book grounded in deep erudition."
—Diana Chapman Walsh, President Emerita, Wellesley College
(on Great Tide Rising)

WLA Featured Speaker:

Don't miss Kathleen's WLA 2019 plenary
"How to Love a Wounded World"
Thursday 9/19, 7:00pm–8:30pm
Assembly Hall C
When in doubt... go to the library.
-Hermione Granger

Estes Valley Library
a proud supporter of the
2019 Western Literature Association Conference
estesvalleylibrary.org

While in Estes Park, visit
Cliffhanger Used Books
191 W. Riverside Drive
(next to the Estes Park Post Office)
open 10 am - 6 pm daily
American Serengeti
The Last Big Animals of the Great Plains
Dan Flores
Winner of the Stubbendieck Great Plains Distinguished Book Prize
222 pages, 20 photographs, 5 maps, Cloth $29.95, Paper $19.95

Rhythms of Change in Rocky Mountain National Park
Ellen Wohl
240 pages, 15 color photographs, 34 black and white photographs, Cloth $27.95

West of Harlem
African American Writers and the Borderlands
Emily Lutenski
344 pages, 28 illustrations, Cloth $39.95

No Place Like Home
Lessons in Activism from LGBT Kansas
C.J. Janovy
Winner of the Stubbendieck Great Plains Distinguished Book Prize
308 pages, 14 photographs, Cloth $29.95, Paper $19.95

Buffalo Bill Cody,
A Man of the West
Prentiss Ingraham
Edited by Sandra K. Sagala
360 pages, 19 illustrations, Cloth $55.00, Paper $29.95

Cliffs and Challenges
A Young Woman Explores Yosemite, 1915–1917
Laura White Brunner
Edited by Jared Champion
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Inventing Destiny
Cultural Explorations of US Expansion
Edited by Jimmy L. Bryan, Jr.
328 pages, 4 photographs, 8 maps, Cloth $75.00, Paper $34.95

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www.kansaspress.ku.edu
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Lee Clark Mitchell
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Nonfiction Dispatches from a Decolonial Rebellion
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Shelby Elizabeth Ella  F3D
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Home on the Range

Oh give me a home where the buffalo roam
Where the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day

Where the air is so pure and the zephyrs so free
And the breezes so balmy and light
That I would not exchange my home on the range
For all of the cities so bright

How often at night when the heavens are bright
With the light of the glittering stars
I stand there amazed and I ask as I gaze
Does their glory exceed that of ours?

Home, home on the range
Where the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day
Based out of West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) in Canyon, TX, Center for the Study of the American West's (CSAW) mission is to promote the study of the American West both as a region culturally unique and as a product of broad historical forces. CSAW is housed in the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum (PPHM), the largest history museum in Texas.

Since its founding, CSAW has established itself as an organization seeking to promote the American West, both on the local scene and in terms of the larger scholarly field. In this endeavor, CSAW focuses on development of interdisciplinary scholarship through research, education, and public outreach and remains dedicated to cultivating a critical vision of region and place in a globalized era.

For more information, contact csaw@wtamu.edu or 806.651.5238 or visit wtamu.edu/csaw
San Diego, home of the Kumeyaay, is a region of shifting borders and contested spaces that has been controlled by Spain, Mexico, and, most recently, the United States. In contemporary times, the region of southern California has nurtured visual culture through Hollywood and Comic Con International, the largest convention for comic book culture in the world hosted annually in San Diego. Drawing on this mixture, the theme “Graphic Wests” invites proposals that take up the graphic in all of its connotations, from graphic content to visual texts as well as the intersections of the two when considering the varied literatures and cultural products of the North American West. We also invite papers that address the unique culture of Southern California, such as surf and coastal literatures, along with papers that examine California writers and themes.

The 2020 Distinguished Achievement Award winners, poet Juan Felipe Herrera (21st National Poet Laureate), and fiction author Stephen Graham Jones, whose works exemplify “Graphic Wests,” will join us at the WLA’s 55th annual conference. The 2020 conference will take place in the beautiful coastal area of the Hilton San Diego Del Mar located just one mile from the beach and in close proximity to the Cedros Avenue Design District and Solana Beach. Additional speakers will be announced at a future date.

In addition to proposals on any aspect of the literatures and cultures of the North American West, the WLA especially encourages panels and papers that explore the following topics:

• Comic books/graphic novels set in the West and/or western comics
• Filmic and televisual representations of the West/western
• Borderlands literature
• Graphic violence, language, and/or sexuality in the West/western
• Texts set in the West, or that take up western themes, that incorporate visual elements or make use of graphic design in their engagement with language
• California writers and texts (Le Guin, Steinbeck, Didion, Mary Austin, John Rollin Ridge, Helen Hunt Jackson, María Ruiz de Burton, etc.)
• Writers and texts that explore California surfing and beach culture
• The work of Distinguished Achievement Award Winner Juan Felipe Herrera
• The work of Distinguished Achievement Award Winner Stephen Graham Jones

We are also open to sessions on teaching and roundtable discussions. Proposals for individual papers must include a 250-word abstract, and proposals for panels and roundtable discussions must include an abstract for each paper or presentation. All submissions must include A/V requests. Proposals can be submitted using the ConfTool link accessible via the conference webpage starting in February 2020.

The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2020.

Please submit questions to Rebecca M. Lush or Kerry Fine at WLAConference2020@westernlit.org.